

Approved 01/12/04
Board of Selectmen Meeting
December 29, 2003
10:00 a.m.

Chairman of the Board Lloyd Sullivan called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Present were Selectperson Jenifer Landman, Selectman Paul Cuetara, Town Administrator Michael Pardue, Administrative Assistant Janet Facella, Ken Rogers from Vision Appraisal, Chuck Reese from the Department of Revenue Administration, and Howard Promer, the Town of North Hampton's assessor.

Chairman Sullivan stated that the Board is concerned regarding the property appraisals of residential property versus commercial property. He asked that Mr. Rogers of Vision Appraisal address some of their concerns. Mr. Rogers stated that assessment analysis showed that residential property sales were up, where commercial property sales and the demands for commercial space were down. As a result, vacancy affects the building values of the commercial property. This is true of commercial property sales in the State of New Hampshire, not just in North Hampton. Selectman Cuetara mentioned that he had pulled examples of 3 parcels of land from the Vision Appraisal website that were next door to each other and the values were considerably different from one another. Mr. Rogers explained that a property owner should come into the town offices and look at their property assessment card, as the information on the Vision Appraisal website has corrections and adjustments to be made. Selectman Cuetara also questioned current use and wetland values.

Chairman Sullivan asked if the other members of the Board were in agreement as to writing a statement addressing the concerns of residents and publishing it in the newspaper and on the Town's website. Both Selectperson Landman, and Cuetara were in agreement.

Town Administrator Michael Pardue asked the Board how questions relating to the payment of taxes should be addressed to homeowners. Chairman Sullivan stated that per state statute taxes not paid by the due date will accrue at an interest rate of 12%, and that a lien will be placed on the property for unpaid taxes. Residents are advised to pay their taxes and then file for an abatement if they chose. Residents should also speak to the Tax Collector regarding making payments, not the Assessing office.

Selectmen Cuetara motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m. Selectperson Landman seconded, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Facella